**श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम:** संभापति जी, अभी थोड़ी देर पहले पर्यटक मंत्री महोदया ने प्रश्नों का उत्तर देते हुए यह कहा था कि हमारे अपने कोई हाथ-पैर नहीं हैं, हम तो सड़क मंत्रालय, वायु मंत्रालय और रेल मंत्रालय की ओर देखते हैं।...

**सभापति:** आप अपना सवाल कीजिए नहीं तो समय खत्म हो जाएगा।

**श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम:** सभापति महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश के और बिहार के जितने बौद्ध तीर्थ-स्थल हैं वहां पर सबसे ज्यादा तीर्थ-यात्री पर्यटक विश्वभर से आते हैं। अगर हिंदू, मुस्लिम, सिख, ईसाई, पारसी, जैन, बौद्ध का हिसाब लगाया जाय तो बहुत लोग वहां पर आते हैं और उन्हीं से ज्यादा आमदनी होती है। इसीलिए इन पर्यटक-स्थलों का विकास करने के लिए सड़कों को बनाया जाना बहुत आवश्यक है। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि वे इस दिशा में क्या कदम उठायेंगे।

**श्री राजनाथ सिंह:** सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य के सुझाव से मैं सहमत हूं। उन मार्गों का निर्माण निश्चित रूप से होना चाहिए। जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है कि टूरिस्ट डिपार्टमेंट के पास अपने हाथ-पैर, आंख, कान नहीं है, वे दूसरों की ओर देखते हैं तो महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य को आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूं कि जो भी मेरी ओर देखेगा, मैं उसको निराश नहीं करूंगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Settlement of Sardar Sarovar Narmada Dam Issue

*327. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hon'ble Prime Minister had announced in Gujarat that the "SARDAR SAROVAR NARMADA DAM" issue will be resolved soon after the Elections, the way he had resolved "Cauvery Water dispute"; and

(b) if so, the initiative taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P.THAKUR): (a) and (b) The Government is taking all necessary steps to resolve the issues and remove the bottlenecks in smooth implementation of Sardar Sarovar Project. The Project has also been included for Central Loan Assistance under the Accelerated Irriga-

tion Benefit Programme and an amount of Rs. 267 crore has already been released during the current financial year.

The progress of the dam construction is constrained mainly due to Civil Writ Petition filed by Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA) in the Hon'ble Supreme Court in 1994. Supreme Court has permitted to raise the height of the dam upto RL 85 meters excluding humps for the safety of the Dam in its interim order dated 18.02.1999. Further raising of the height of the Dam depends upon the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court. The matter is subjudice.

**Financial and Administrative Powers of Directors of Postal Services in the N.E. Region**

*328. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directors of the Postal Services posted in the Divisions under the shillong based North East Circle have practically no financial and administrative powers, though their counterparts posted elsewhere in the country as Heads of Divisions are vested with full controlling powers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this centralisation of power in the hands of the P.M.Gs has been resulting in deterioration of efficiency in the Postal Services of the region?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) The Directors of Postal Services incharge of Divisions in NE Circle, were delegated all the administrative powers of Directors of Postal Services posted elsewhere in the country. Initially, they were also vested with financial powers in excess of those delegated to Senior Superintendents, who are heads of Divisions, and upto those Directors of Postal Services, to be exercised in consultation with Circle Intergrated Finance Advice. Subsequently, in view of difficulty experienced in management of expenditure and use of scant resources with so many Directors of Postal Services exercising financial powers, the CPMG of NE Circle directed the Directors of Postal Services incharge of Divisions, to submit proposals of expenditures beyond powers of Divisional Superintendents to Circle